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worthy : "The statistics of conjugal condition, previously given in this paper, prove that the prevailing moral condition of the colored population of these islands is worse to-day than it could possibly have been in the past, and that, with the exception of the Bermudas, the tendency does not seem to be upward, but toward a still lower level of immorality and vice."

Left-Handedness in North American Aboriginal Art. D. G. BRINTON. *Ibid.*, pp. 175-181.

This paper gives the results of the examination as to "plane of cleavage," asymmetry, etc., of several hundred flint blades in the museum of the University of Pennsylvania, taken from different parts of the United States. Dr. Brinton concludes: "The hand preferred was no doubt the right hand, but the notably large proportion of thirty-three per cent. for probably left-handed work indicates either that there were more left-handed persons, or, as I prefer to believe, that there were more who were ambidextrous. This may have been due to the fact that the methods of flint-chipping favored the use of both hands, but it is as likely that it indicates a general physiological tendency." From the observation and examination of drawings and picture-writing of the Indians, the author arrives also at the result that "the aboriginal race of North America was either left-handed or ambidextrous to a greater degree than the peoples of modern Europe." The real source of the preference for the right hand, which (though not to the same degree) has existed in the majority of mankind from earliest times, Dr. Brinton holds, lies in the *erect posture of the human species*.

Ueber die Vererbung erworbener Eigenschaften. G. RETZIUS. *Biolog. Untersuch.*, Neue Folge, VII (1895), S. 61-71.

After brief discussion of previous literature on the subject, the author résumés the results of the investigations of Prof. Havelock Charles of the medical school in Lahore, India, on the "Influence of Function as Exemplified in the Morphology of the Lower Extremity of the Panjabi," a paper published in the *Journal of Anatomy and Physiology* for 1893, and another paper on "Morphological Peculiarities in the Panjabi and their Bearing on the Question of the Transmission of Acquired Characters," in the same periodical for 1894. Not only does Prof. Retzius see in these data evidence of the origin of variation through difference in body-position, customs and uses, but also of the possibility of the hereditary transmission of such peculiarities. The retroversion of the tibia is one of the most noticeable of these. According to Retzius this is also a *constant* characteristic of the Swedish *fœtus*; indeed, perhaps of the *fœtus* in general, and in it we have "*an original morphological character*," transmitted from grey antiquity by inheritance. But we must be careful not to mistake something else for an atavistic or hereditarily transmitted acquired characteristic. The ethnological side of the subject is still somewhat dark.

The Arrow. F. H. CUSHING. *Amer. Anthropol.*, Vol. VIII (1895), pp. 307-349.

This is the first part of a most valuable and detailed study of the antiquity of the arrow, its influence, its relation to anthropology, the typical arrow, arrow-making, the origin of early art and of lance-form tools, the development of arrow-form missiles, the origin of the dart-flinger and the bow, — in brief, the complete history of the arrow as only an expert, like Mr. Cushing, could give it.

There is a good deal of truth in the author's remark that "as it was the chief reliance and resource of primitive man in the two main activities of his life—war and the chase,—it speedily became his first, and ever remained, by representation at least, his highest, instrumentality for divining the fate or fortune its use so often decided, and in this way came to affect, as no other single object of art ever did, the development and history of mankind in general the wide world over."

Korean Games, with Notes on the Corresponding Games of China and Japan. S. CULIN. Philadelphia, 1895, 177 pp. 4to.

This volume naturally belongs with Mr. Cushing's study of the arrow. Its chief original feature is a masterly attempt to trace back all games of divination to the arrow—cards, dice, chess, etc., all belong there. The special portion of the work is treated with remarkable skill, the introduction is scholarly and philosophical, and in every respect this volume is worthy of high rank. Korea is here made to serve the whole world. The volume is well provided with plates, figures, and index, well printed and well bound.

An Iroquois Condoling Council. A Study of Aboriginal American Society and Government. HALE. Trans. Roy. Soc. Can., Sec. Series, 1895-6, Vol. I, Sect. II, pp. 45-65.

In this paper Mr. Hale describes the most important and rarest of the public ceremonies and festivals of the Iroquois Indians of Canada, "the Condoling Council," at which he was present in July, 1883. The distinguished author does not hesitate to pay marked tribute to the intellectual and moral qualities of the Iroquois, "a people whose achievements, institutions and language show them to have been, in natural capacity and the higher elements of character, not inferior to any race of men of whom history preserves a record."

Durée de la Génération Humaine. Fécondité comparée de l'homme et de la femme suivant l'âge. M. V. TURQUAN. Revue Scientifique, 4e Série, Tome V (1896), pp. 8-17, 167-176.

This valuable demographic study is accompanied by numerous maps, tables and curves, with great detail of subdivision. The author's general conclusions are that at the age 15-19 years the fecundity of French women is hardly inferior to that of other Europeans, but beginning with the twentieth year the fecundity falls, and up to the thirty-fourth year is hardly two-thirds that of the Europeans, and after the thirty-fifth year one-half. In general, the natality in France is to the natality of other European countries as two is to three, but the mortality is nearly a third larger.

La Famille Annamite. PAUL D'ENJOY. Ibid., pp. 243-244.

In Annam "the ancestor represents divine right, and the family, like the state, is an absolute monarchy, whose privileges are based on birth."

Les Formes Primitives du Travail. G. FERRERO. Ibid., pp. 331-335.

The author is scarcely correct in asserting that "idleness and savagery are synonymous," and Robertson is not the best authority on the general characters of the American aborigines. Nevertheless the author's views are interesting and to some extent well supported. His chief points are: (1) The productive labor of civilized man is regular and methodic—savage sport is irregular